

### **DETAILED ACTION**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the nearest prior art, Coscia et al and Spence et al, disclose aldehyde functionalized polyamines or polyamides but fail to recite the amount of unreacted aldehyde. Coscia et al teaches that, in the reaction of glyoxal with an acrylamide polymer, about 50% of the aldehyde does not react but remains dissolved in the water (col 6, lines 37-43). Spence does not disclose the amount of unreacted aldehyde, but discloses that the method of Coscia et al is used to produce the polymers. The art generally references Coscia et al for producing aldehyde functionalized amide and amine polymers and one of ordinary skill in the art would not find the claimed amount of unreacted aldehyde obvious over the cited prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DENNIS CORDRAY whose telephone number is (571)272-8244. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F, 7:30 -4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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